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AGREEMENT

CANADA QUÉBEC

**Canada-Québec
Subsidiary Agreement
on Forest
Development
1992-1996**


Canada 

Québec 



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**CANADA-QUÉBEC
SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT
ON FOREST DEVELOPMENT
1992-1996**

Canada 


Québec 

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CANADA-QUÉBEC SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT ON FOREST DEVELOPMENT 1992-1996

Canada

Québec

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CANADA-QUÉBEC SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT ON FOREST DEVELOPMENT 1992-1996

AGREEMENT made in Québec this 9th day of April, 1992.

BETWEEN :

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
represented by the Minister of Forestry

OF THE FIRST PART

AND :

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC
represented by the Minister for Canadian
Intergovernmental Affairs and the
Minister of Forests

OF THE SECOND PART.

WHEREAS the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec have entered into an Economic and Regional Development Agreement dated December 14, 1984, to achieve the following objectives :

- a) to intensify the economic and regional development of Québec and to create an environment in which Québec and its regions can achieve their economic potential through, in particular, the enhancement of their own comparative advantages, the development and strengthening of productive enterprises and the growth of employment ;

- b) to consolidate and improve opportunities for employment and income so that the population of Québec can contribute to and benefit from the economic and regional development of Québec, given that human resource development is an integral element of economic and regional development ; and
- c) to facilitate consultation and coordination of the economic and regional development policies, programs and activities of both governments, in order to allow for as many development opportunities as possible and to reduce constraints to such development.

AND WHEREAS the Ministers have seen that the Canada-Québec Subsidiary Agreement on Forest Development, signed April 30, 1985, and the Canada-Québec Special Subsidiary Agreement (1987-1992) on Forest Development of the Upper North Shore, to facilitate forest development in Québec, have generated substantial economic spin-offs ;

AND WHEREAS the Canada-Québec Subsidiary Agreement on Forest Development, with the exception of the Fight against Maple Dieback program, has expired ;

AND WHEREAS the deadline for the Canada-Québec Special Subsidiary Agreement (1987-1992) on Forest Development of the Upper North Shore is March 31, 1992 ;

AND WHEREAS forest development in Québec remains a priority in the governments' strategy for economic and regional development ;

AND WHEREAS the Governor in Council, by Order-in-Council No. PC 1992-681 dated April 3, 1992, has authorized the Minister of Forestry to sign this Agreement on behalf of the Government of Canada ;

AND WHEREAS on the recommendation of the Minister of Forests and the Minister for Intergovernmental Canadian Affairs, the Government of Québec, in accordance with the Decree 482-92 dated April 1, 1992, has approved the terms of this Agreement ;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties agree as follows :

I

DEFINITIONS

1.1 In this Agreement :

- a) « Canada Minister » means the Minister for the Federal Office of Regional Development (Québec) or any person authorized to act on his behalf ;
- b) « Cost sharing » means financing terms for programs jointly approved under this Agreement, the implementation of which is the sole responsibility of the Government of Québec but the cost of which is shared by the two Governments ;
- c) « Deadline » means March 31, 1996, the final date for authorizing work as described for in Schedule B and outlined in Schedule C ;

- d) « Eligible costs » means those costs outlined as eligible costs in Subsection 7.5 ;
- e) « Expiry date » means December 31, 1996, the final date for the termination of work as described in Schedule B and outlined in Schedule C ;
- f) « Fiscal year » means the period commencing on April 1 of any year and terminating on March 31 of the immediately following year ;
- g) « Implementing Ministers » means the Implementing Ministers for Canada and Québec ;
- h) « Implementing Minister for Canada » means the Minister of Forestry or any person authorized to act on his behalf ;
- i) « Implementing Minister for Québec » means the Minister of Forests or any person authorized to act on his behalf ;
- j) « Management Committee » means the committee formed pursuant to Subsection 4.1 of this Agreement and Subsection 6.3 of the Canada-Québec Economic and Regional Development Agreement ;
- k) « Program » means a principal component of the Agreement as outlined in Schedule C ;
- l) « Québec Minister » means the Minister for Intergovernmental Canadian Affairs or any Minister authorized to act on his behalf ;

- m) « Schedule A » means the schedule attached hereto, forming part of this Agreement, and which defines the problems and objectives ;
- n) « Schedule B » means the schedule attached hereto, forming part of this Agreement, and which sets out the description of the programs ;
- o) « Schedule C » means the schedule attached hereto, forming part of this Agreement, and which sets out the allocation of funds among the various programs ;
- p) « Schedule D » means the schedule forming part of this Agreement, which defines the criteria for evaluation of the programs and which will be developed in accordance with Section 10 of this Agreement ;
- q) « Subsidiary Agreement » means the agreement entered into pursuant to Section 6.2 of the Canada-Québec Economic and Regional Development Agreement ;
- r) « Term of the Agreement » means the period from April 1, 1992 to March 31, 1996.

2

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to promote cooperation and coordination between the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec in implementing measures intended to stimulate the sustainable development of

Québec's forest resources in accordance with the objectives set out in Schedule A and the programs set out in Schedule B of this Agreement.

3

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Agreement are :

- a) to contribute to the development and the setting of a geoforestry information system ;
- b) to contribute to the enhancement and the development of private woodlands and to increasingly emphasize silvicultural treatments favoring natural regeneration and stand tending ;
- c) to increase production in Crown forests of the Upper North Shore ; and
- d) to promote user and public awareness of the activities and results of the Agreement.

4

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 A Management Committee shall be appointed to administer and manage this Agreement. It shall be composed of an equal number of representatives of the Government of Canada, to be appointed by the Implementing Minister for Canada, and the Government of Québec, to be appointed by the Québec Minister. The Management Committee will continue to exist and operate for as long as necessary to meet the requirements of this Agreement.

- 4.2 The co-chairmen of the Management Committee shall be appointed by the Implementing Minister for Canada and the Québec Minister.
- 4.3 The Canada Minister and the Québec Minister may each appoint a representative as an ex-officio member of the Management Committee.
- 4.4 The Management Committee shall meet at least twice a year, at such places and on such dates as may be agreed to by the co-chairmen. A quorum for all meetings of the Management Committee shall be two members of whom one shall be the Canada co-chairman or a member designated pursuant to Subsection 4.1, and the Québec co-chairman or a member designated pursuant to Subsection 4.1.
- 4.5 The Government of Canada and the Government of Québec agree to provide the Management Committee, through their respective representatives, all information and documents deemed necessary for the performance of its duties.
- 4.6 The Management Committee shall have the following responsibilities :
- a) ensure that the intent, and the terms and conditions of this Agreement are carried out ;
 - b) evaluate and approve all programs to be carried out under this Agreement ;
 - c) approve at the beginning of each fiscal year an annual work plan specifying the programs of the Agreement to be implemented in the course of that fiscal year, the amounts projected for

eligible costs, as well as the financial contribution of each of the Governments in the form and manner agreed upon by the Management Committee ;

- d) submit for the approval of the Implementing Ministers, annually and not later than December 1 of each year, the projected budget for the next fiscal year ;
- e) submit for the approval of the Implementing Ministers, not later than October 1 following the fiscal year in question, an Annual Report concerning all the programs of this Agreement, and recommendations on ways to improve the Agreement ;
- f) make the necessary changes in programs and program budgets insofar as this does not increase total funds for a program, as specified in Schedule C ;
- g) create the necessary sub-committees and define their mandate ;
- h) designate parties responsible for operations and define their mandate ;
- i) establish standards and procedures as may be required for the efficient management of this Agreement ;
- j) take steps at its first meeting to ensure the provision of the regular services of a secretariat. This secretariat shall be headed jointly by a re-

representative of each of the Implementing Ministers. The operating procedures, roles and duties of the standing secretariat shall be determined by the Management Committee ;

- k) recommend to the Implementing Ministers and to the Québec Minister amendments to be made to this Agreement, in accordance with Section 9 ;
- l) establish an evaluation procedure by March 31, 1993 at the latest, and ensure that it is implemented, in accordance with Section 10 of this Agreement ;
- m) inform the public about work carried out pursuant to the Agreement in accordance with Section 11 ;
- n) establish guidelines allowing every member or their designate to be aware of the intended projects to be carried out under the Agreement ;
- o) see to it that any projects carried out under the Agreement respect the principles of sustainable development ;
- p) perform any other duties that may be assigned to it by the Implementing Ministers.

4.7 All decisions of the Management Committee will require the unanimous consent of the members attending the meeting. In those cases where the Management Committee is unable to reach an agreement, the dispute shall be submitted to the

Implementing Ministers, whose decision shall be final, and the issue will be held in abeyance until it is resolved.

5

IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

- 5.1 This Agreement shall come into effect on April 1, 1992, and shall expire on March 31, 1996, or on another date to be agreed upon in writing by the Implementing Ministers and the Québec Minister.
- 5.2 During the term of this Agreement, the Government of Québec shall be responsible for the implementation of projects approved by the Management Committee, in accordance with Paragraph 4.6 b), as described in Schedule B and outlined in Schedule C.
- 5.3 The Government of Québec shall assume ownership of assets and goods resulting from projects it has the responsibility of implementing, and shall assume responsibility for their operation and maintenance, except on privately owned forest lands.
- 5.4 The Government of Québec and the Government of Canada shall take possession of copyrights and patents that are developed as a result of the performance of this Agreement in proportion to their financial contribution to the said project.

TENDERS AND CONTRACT AWARDS

- 6.1 All contracts shall be awarded in accordance with contracting procedures in effect in the Government of Québec and the documents describing those procedures will be tabled at the first meeting of the Management Committee, as well as any subsequent amendment.
- 6.2 All specimen documents for plans and specifications and specimen clauses for contracts to be awarded for each activity according to the procedures in effect, shall be submitted to the Management Committee for approval at the beginning of each fiscal year or as may be necessary. All contracts to be awarded pursuant to this Agreement shall be available to the Management Committee, following a request by one of the parties, before the commencement of work, and a progress report shall be provided to the Management Committee.
- 6.3 All significant changes, such as the addition or deletion of a contract clause or all exceeding of limitations as established by the Management Committee to contracts awarded pursuant to Section 6.2 shall be subject to the consent of the Management Committee.
- 6.4 All contractual documents relating to programs set out in this Agreement, including calls to tender, shall contain the following statement : « This development project is financed by Forestry Canada and

the Québec Department of Forestry within the Canada-Québec Subsidiary Agreement on Forest Development 1992-1996 » or any such statement having the same meaning as may be approved by the Management Committee.

- 6.5 Any contract awarded in accordance with this Agreement shall include a clause providing that all reports, documents, plans, maps and other material prepared thereunder shall become the property of the Government of Québec.

7

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 7.1 The Government of Canada shall contribute financially to initiatives carried out under this Agreement subject to the appropriation of the necessary funds by the Parliament of Canada.
- 7.2 The Government of Québec shall contribute financially to initiatives carried out under this Agreement subject to the appropriation of the necessary funds by the Québec National Assembly.
- 7.3 The Government of Canada shall pay fifty per cent (50 %) of the costs incurred pursuant to this Agreement, up to a maximum of 68 million dollars (\$68 000 000). This percentage applies to the entire Agreement. However, annual percentage variations could be approved by the Management Committee insofar as they do not alter equal cost sharing for the duration of the Agreement.

7.4 The Government of Québec shall pay fifty per cent (50 %) of the costs incurred pursuant to this Agreement up to a maximum of 68 million dollars (\$68 000 000). This percentage applies to the entire Agreement. However, annual percentage variations could be approved by the Management Committee insofar as they do not alter equal cost sharing for the duration of the Agreement.

7.5 The eligible costs for this Agreement are :

- a) for the carrying out of projects on privately owned forest lands, unit rates defined by the Government of Québec for their implementation ;
- b) for the carrying out of projects under the Upper North Shore program, unit rates defined by the Government of Québec for their implementation, as well as costs related to planning, site accessibility, supervision and monitoring, such as established by the Management Committee ;
- c) for all other projects, the real costs of contracts awarded pursuant to the Agreement.

It is agreed that the Management Committee could recognize any other cost deemed relevant to the attainment of the objectives of the Agreement.

7.6 The Québec party shall table at the first meeting of the Management Committee a document outlining the methodology of rate-setting for projects under the Private Woodlands and Upper North Shore

programs and present rate proposals for the targeted fiscal year prior to their approval by Québec Government parties.

8

PAYMENT PROCEDURES

- 8.1 Subject to Subsection 8.4, the Government of Canada shall reimburse the Government of Québec, as soon as possible and in accordance with the proportions set out in Subsections 7.3 and 7.4 of this Agreement, for any eligible costs incurred in connection with work performed under a program, and upon submission of a claim by the Government of Québec in the form and manner agreed upon by the Management Committee. The Government of Canada shall not pay any expenses for projects authorized after the deadline or performed after the termination date except with written authorization from the Implementing Minister for Canada following a written request from the Implementing Minister for Québec.
- 8.2 However, the Government of Canada may, at the request of the Government of Québec and upon the recommendation of the Management Committee, make interim payments as the work is being performed, corresponding to its share of the costs incurred in the said work. Such costs shall be assessed and certified by an authorized person from the Government of Québec.
- 8.3 No interim payment shall be made unless those made during the preceding fiscal year for the same

activity have been accounted for by means of a claim for expenses incurred and paid, certified by an authorized person, and all outstanding amounts have been reimbursed or accounted for in a manner deemed satisfactory by the Implementing Minister for Canada.

- 8.4 The Government of Québec shall maintain proper accounts of any interim payments and shall submit to the Government of Canada, within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the interim payment, a detailed statement of expenditures in the form and manner agreed upon by the Management Committee. Any discrepancy between the amounts paid by the Government of Canada as interim payments and the amounts actually payable shall be corrected as soon as possible.
- 8.5 All payments to the Government of Québec by the Government of Canada under Subsections 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 shall be made to the Consolidated Fund of Québec.
- 8.6 The Government of Québec ensures that its own agencies maintain detailed accounts for each activity and undertakes to provide the Government of Canada, on request, with any accounting information needed to audit the claims relating to each of the activities undertaken under this Agreement.

AMENDMENTS

This Agreement, including the Schedules, may be amended from time to time on written agreement by the Implementing Ministers and the Québec Minister. It is expressly agreed and understood, however, that any amendment to Sections 2 and 3, and Subsection 7.3 must be approved by the Governor General in Council and that any amendment to Sections 2 and 3, and Subsection 7.4 must be approved by the Government of Québec.

EVALUATION

The information deemed necessary by one of the parties to carry out a socio-economic impact evaluation of the Agreement in terms of its objectives will be made available upon request by the other party in accordance with the evaluation framework setting forth the evaluation criteria. This framework shall be drawn up by the Management Committee and appended to this Agreement in the year following its signature. For this purpose, the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec agree and accept :

- a) to exchange any relevant facts and information that may prove to be necessary for any evaluation concerning this Agreement ;
- b) to revise before September 30, 1994 the evaluation framework as well as facts and information provided in order to undertake an overall evaluation of this Agreement from April 1, 1995 ;

- c) in order to carry out the evaluation of the Agreement, the Management Committee could, if needed, finance the evaluation and communications activities using the funds attributed to it for the « Communications and Evaluation » program of the Agreement as described in Schedule B and outlined in Schedule C.

II

PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 11.1 The Government of Canada and the Government of Québec agree to work together in preparing and implementing a public information program with regard to the carrying out of the activities included in the Agreement.
- 11.2 In accordance with Subsection 7.3 of the Canada-Québec Economic and Regional Development Agreement, all official ceremonies and public announcements concerning the measures planned and the products arising from this Agreement shall be organized jointly and both parties shall be given equal opportunities to participate.
- 11.3 The Management Committee shall deem appropriate the posting of signs or other written materials to identify projects such that :
- a) The Government of Canada and the Government of Québec may provide, install at the appropriate location and maintain throughout the duration of each project, one or several signs indicating that the project is a forest resource development project undertaken under the

auspices of this Agreement, or bearing any other such message approved by the Management Committee ;

- b) The Government of Canada and the Government of Québec may provide and install, upon completion of projects, where feasible, a plaque or permanent sign bearing an appropriate inscription.

11.4 In accordance with Subsection 7.2 of the Canada-Québec Economic and Regional Development Agreement, the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec shall ensure that the public documents and publicity for projects provided for under this Agreement, including press releases, calls for tenders, contracts and all financial documents deemed relevant by the Management Committee reflect the financial contribution of the parties.

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COORDINATION

With a view to coordinating operations, both parties agree to mandate the Management Committee to discuss the implications of Forestry Canada initiatives for the Québec Ministry of Forestry, in particular, those connected with plant supplying, the forestry component of the « Green Plan », forestry databases, and the Trials, Experiments, and Technology Transfer program. All parties must present a report on the results of these discussions to their respective Ministers and, if necessary, on the envisaged procedures for collaboration.

GENERAL

- 13.1 The party responsible for the implementation of any program provided for under this Agreement shall indemnify and save harmless the other party, its agents, officers and representatives, from and against any claim or proceeding brought by a third party and arising from the implementation of such program, except where the claim arises out of an act of omission or negligence on the part of an agent, employee or officer of the other party.
- 13.2 No member of the Parliament of Canada or of the Québec National Assembly may be a party to any contract, agreement or commission arising out of this Agreement, or derive any benefit therefrom.
- 13.3 This Agreement shall be administered and interpreted in accordance with the laws in effect in Québec.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the present Agreement has been signed in Québec this 9th day of April, 1992, on behalf of the Government of Canada, by the Minister of Forestry and, on behalf of the Government of Québec, by the Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Minister of Forests.

IN THE PRESENCE OF

**GOVERNMENT
OF CANADA**

**GOVERNMENT
OF QUÉBEC**

MINISTER OF FORESTRY

MINISTER FOR CANADIAN
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS

MINISTER OF FORESTS

SCHEDULE A

ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the issues and define the objectives and action strategies underlying the terms of this Agreement on forest development between the Government of Canada and the Government of Québec.

Since 1974, forestry Agreements have promoted access to forest areas and more intensive forestry management through reforestation on both Crown and private lands. Between 1974 and 1990, over \$600 million were invested by the two governments under the terms of these Agreements.

Since the signing of the last Agreement in 1985, the Québec logging industry has seen the implementation of a new forestry management system strongly geared to natural regeneration and control of forestry activities.

Today, questions of access and management are still live issues. However, now more than ever, forestry issues are seen in a wider context.

GLOBAL ISSUES

Since the publication in 1987 of the Brundtland Commission report on the economy and the environment under the auspices of the United Nations, the concept of sustainable development has steadily gained ground. This concept is rooted in maintenance of the potential of all the resources of a given environment, optimizing their respective yields to meet the growing needs of humanity.

The new forestry management system starts from the premise that forest resources are not inexhaustible. It limits harvesting of timber to what a managed forest can sustain, respecting the forest which both provides the resource and supports other resources and activities.

The new forestry management system is also intended to ensure the economic activity generated by forest use and the processing of timber. Such activity is particularly important for many small communities in outlying areas.

The day-to-day realities of forest life are thus at the heart of the debate over sustainable development. Users of the forest are among those who will help to establish a sustainable balance between economic and environmental imperatives.

On Crown lands, these new concerns have led to the adoption of certain measures such as a shift toward natural regeneration and implementation of forestry action strategies. On private lands, silvicultural practice is still heavily plantation-oriented, and the next few years should provide opportunities for diversifying regeneration methods and intensifying stand tending.

These measures are being promoted in hard economic times for all businesses, especially those in the logging industry. This sector is facing major cyclical hardships that have brought to light its serious structural problems. This situation seriously threatens Québec's economic development and, added to the uncertainties of rural life, casts a dark shadow over development prospects for outlying areas.

This Agreement cannot hope to solve all the problems arising from this situation, but it can help find answers for certain significant elements.

OBJECTIVES

The Agreement has four objectives :

- To contribute to developing and putting into operation a geoforestry information system ;
- To contribute to the enhancement and development of private woodlands and to increasingly emphasize silvicultural treatments favouring natural regeneration and stand tending ;
- To increase production in Crown forests of the Upper North Shore ; and
- To promote user and public awareness of the activities and results of the Agreement.

THE GEOFORESTRY INFORMATION SYSTEM (GFIS)

Forest management is becoming increasingly complex. All forest resources and the activities dependent on them must be taken into account ; optimum-impact decisions have to be made for logging, wildlife, and socio-economic, financial and environmental factors. Such exercises have to be undertaken in a particularly difficult context : numerous actors (logging industry, private woodlot owners, and other users), yearly and five-year planning process, review of Timber Supply and Forest Management Agreements (CAAF) every five years, fragmentation of ownership, zoning, and the annual monitoring of forest use.

To accomplish this, the ministère des Forêts du Québec (Québec's Ministry of Forests-MFO) has to rely on a wide array of cartographic data, both descriptive, and quantitative : five million stands, a comparable number of forest ecosystems, 28 rating zones and 6 000 yearly cutting zones on Crown land, various areas affected by natural disturbances, and all with reference to 120 000 administrative cutting zones.

Existing information systems do not allow for effective and efficient data management. Integration of spatial and non-spatial data is non-existent. Systems are unconnected, updating is incomplete, and processing is slow. Data storage is defective, the communications network has reached the limits of its capacity, and both hardware and software are varied and hardly compatible. In addition, data exchange between the MFO and its clients is especially difficult because of constraints relating to selection and processing of data.

Our response to this situation has been to establish a Geoforestry Information System to integrate all scientific forest data for both Crown and private lands. Besides locating, qualifying, and quantifying forest resources, this system will contain information on stand development, natural phenomena, all forestry-related activities and interventions, as well as ownership. It will include a customer service infrastructure for disseminating and exchanging data from local and regional MFO service locations.

Although known for the quality of its inventories, Québec does not benefit at the present time from an geoforestry information system, as it is the case in most provinces. About ten companies operating in Québec have acquired one. Given the requirements of optimum forest management, implementation of a geoforestry information system has become a necessity, and a number of interests are lobbying for it.

THE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATES WOODLANDS

Though they account for only 10 % of Québec's productive forests, private woodlands supply 19 % of industrial softwood needs and 43 % of hardwood. Overall harvesting levels on private lands amount to full use of the allowable cut for fir, spruce, and jack pine and 60 % of that for hardwood species. Private woodlands have the advantage of being located near processing plants and labour resources and of being on particularly productive soil.

Private forests are young, most of them being in the 30 years-and-under age class. Their forest cover is diversified, with hardwood stands accounting for 40 % of their area, mixed woods 31%, softwoods 17 %, and regenerating land 12 %.

Some private woodlands have suffered disturbances, either natural or man-made. In some cases, stands have been cut using methods that do not take their biophysical characteristics into account (clearcutting instead of thinning, inappropriate selective cutting), and others have been affected by spruce budworm or dieback, but in either case they show signs of severe problems that reduce productivity.

In many cases, these disturbances have left large areas under regeneration. On the other hand, we must remember that there are 400 000 hectares of fallow forest, former land which have become unproductive, and which could increase the logging potential of private woodlands.

This picture does not account for all the aspects of the private forest question. There are 120 000 owners, 83 % of them actively involved in logging and each with his/her own objectives.

Forest producers form 15 wood producers marketing boards, under the umbrella of the Fédération des producteurs de bois du Québec (FPBQ), itself affiliated with the Union des producteurs agricoles du Québec (UPA, Québec Farmers' Union). Group ventures are distinct yet complementary groupings oriented toward enhancement and development of woodlands. These landowners benefit from government assistance programs, whether group- or

individual-based. The programs rely heavily on recognized wood producer status, the universality of the services provided, and owner contributions.

Through their decisions and commitment to forest management, private woodlot owners are promoters of economic development in rural areas. Concerns for rural populations and regional development, not unique to the forestry industry, are among the factors taken into account in this sectoral Agreement.

The last Agreement generated significant increases in the funds devoted to private forest management ; they more than doubled over the 1985-1990 period.

In the next few years, planting will still be widely conducted, given the degraded state of some stands and the need to bring fallow land into production.

Other interventions may be made at various stages in the development of stands to extend their life, ensure regeneration, heighten their resistance to disturbances, and increase their timber potential. These interventions consist in a range of silvicultural treatments collectively known as « stand tending », geared mainly to natural regeneration stands.

In the early 1970s, these treatments still predominated, but gradually gave way to planting. In recent years, expertise in stand tending has been kept up. Under this Agreement, both governments undertake to ensure funding for a real shift in forestry practice, whereby intensified planting will be phased out in favour of stand tending.

FOREST MANAGEMENT ON THE UPPER NORTH SHORE

In 1987, the two governments signed a Special Subsidiary Agreement on Forest Development for the Upper North Shore. This Agreement expires in 1992 and has an overall budget of \$13 million. Its main objective is to increase timber availability in the Les Escoumins and Forestville management units through interventions complementary to those of 1985-1990 Canada-Québec Subsidiary Agreement on Forest Development. At the end of the Agreement, natural regeneration tending and stand conversion will have been done on over 11 000 hectares ; this will have made it possible to diversify forestry practice in the region and train a versatile workforce.

As the Agreement expires, however, the problems specific to the area still persist. In fact, although the forest profile of the region has changed considerably since 1987, full silvicultural potential has not been achieved. The action taken in this area under the Special Agreement must therefore be kept up. These operations will now be integrated into the Subsidiary Agreement on Forest Development as a distinct program. The initiatives supported will endeavour to solve the problems of site regeneration, maintenance and cleaning of the regenerated land, and improvement of degraded stands or renewed production of sites with degraded stands not capable of improvement.

AWARENESS OF AGREEMENT OPERATIONS

The Canada-Québec Agreement on Economic and Regional Development, signed in 1984, and the memorandum of understanding on regional and economic development in Québec signed June 9, 1988, require that Subsidiary Agreements include communications activities for informing the participating organizations and the general public. These activities will keep GFIS users, private woodland owners and their representatives, and forest interests on the Upper North Shore fully informed about the Agreement's impact on their operations. They will also ensure a degree of public visibility for both parties.

Moreover, both parties agree that the Agreement needs to be evaluated in order to inform the public of its results.

SCHEDULE B

AGREEMENT PROGRAMS

The purpose of this Schedule is to describe the contents of the four Agreement programs : Geoforestry Information System, Private Woodlands, Forestry Management on the Upper North Shore, and Communications and Evaluation.

I

GEOFORESTRY INFORMATION SYSTEM (GFIS) (\$19.6 M)

This program comprises two facets :

- development and implementation of a spatial reference information system ;
- establishment of a Québec-wide georeferenced forest data base.

A. DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF GFIS (\$12 M)

This facets calls for an investment of about \$12 million spread over four years to develop the system's computer functions and implement the spatial data reference system at customer service locations.

The initial stages of the work will cover architecture and data organization for forestry, ecological, entomological, pathological, and intervention inventories, taking into account information on recreational use, wildlife, and

territory. In other words, an alphanumeric database management system has to be developed, anchored to a localized database management system that will allow for data recording, storage, and dissemination.

Subsequent work will cover programming for applications dealing with processing, compiling, and querying of data on forestry science for planning, allocation, management, and control of forests. The work will include programming of simulation and spatial analysis modules using data from forestry, wildlife, and other inventories. Silvicultural intervention modules will be developed to meet the requirements of planning, execution of forest management tasks, and control. The parameters under consideration for these modules are, for planning : timber allocation, forestry management plans, annual forestry intervention plans, fire and insect protection plans, supply planning, development plans and simplified management plans ; for execution of forest management tasks : operational planning for harvesting, road network, plantation, thinning, and fire and insect suppression ; for control : inspection, measurement, and intervention monitoring.

This facet covers computer hardware and software needs for implementation of the GFIS at MFO service locations, thus promoting data exchange with clients throughout all regions of Québec and decision-making in operational units. This network development is needed to ensure distribution of applications and data to managers in outlying areas.

B. GEOGRAPHIC AND FORESTRY DATABASE (\$7.6 M)

This facet covers digital conversion of Québec forest mapping data. It is indispensable to system operation and coordinated decentralization of decision-making. Over the next four years, \$7.6 million will be spent on digitalizing the mapping of Québec's forest resources.

Digitalization involves converting the information shown on conventional maps into a digital, machine-readable format. The data include landforms, descriptions of forest cover, location of stands, and silvicultural intervention in relation to the road network, hydrography, administrative boundaries, and other activities pertaining to sustainable development.

Digitalization includes conversion of the forestry maps from part of the second forest inventory program made between 1981 and 1989 and recovery of the corresponding alphanumeric data. It will also facilitate use of forest ecology information maps made between the start of the third forest inventory program and implementation of this system. The exercise will apply to conventional maps, and forest mensuration and ecological data will be incorporated.

These two facets will be conducted mainly through consultancy contracts for professional and auxiliary services, administered by the MFO. They involve related work, such as review of existing applications, drafting of norms for conversion, conduct of technical trials, specialized training in geomatics, and data exchange with clients.

MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE WOODLANDS (\$110 M)

The prime purpose of the Private Woodlands program is to transform forestry practice to give greater emphasis to stand tending. Signature of this Agreement will make this shift possible.

The program comprises two facets :

- planting ;
- stand tending.

A. PLANTING (\$58 M)

Plantation work covers all operations pertaining to restoring site productivity :

- site preparation, including ground clearing, recovery of residual stems, scarification, slash removal, ploughing, and harrowing ;
- planting, including fill-planting ; and
- regeneration maintenance.

Over the next four years, \$58 million will be invested in plantation to ensure the regeneration of 46 400 hectares. This restoration of site productivity will expand the productive area of private woodlands and thus increase timber supplies. The amounts listed in the Agreement are only part of the money that will be spent in this connection.

B. STAND TENDING (\$52 M)

Planned silvicultural treatments are :

- precommercial thinning ;
- release cutting ;
- selection felling ;
- commercial thinning ;
- regeneration felling.

Over the next four years, \$48 million will be invested in stand tending, enabling work to be done on 80 000 hectares.

In addition, \$4 million is reserved specifically for individual management plans. These will be tailored to the needs of the projected silvicultural transformation in this facet and will generate new knowledge of the lands on which the work will be done. The MFO will submit its intended approach to drafting these management plans to the Management Committee.

The Management Committee may also approve any other initiative contributing to the achievement of the major silvicultural shift toward stand tending and natural regeneration.

In both facets, the contributions of the two levels of government will cover the costs of technical assistance and of the work itself. Program execution will be the responsibility of third parties, individual owners or groups of owners operating through joint ventures, who will also

assume part of the costs, as determined by the Québec government.

3

FOREST MANAGEMENT ON THE UPPER NORTH SHORE (\$6 M)

The purpose of this program is to conduct forest management operations on Crown lands ; it is geared chiefly to regeneration maintenance and planting. Over the next four years, \$6 million will be invested in Crown lands forests on the Upper North Shore for work on some 7 300 hectares.

4

COMMUNICATIONS AND EVALUATION (\$0.4 M)

This program comprises a range of initiatives for informing the public about the Agreement and informing both the public and major interests about its results. It may include contracts for both communications and evaluation work.

SCHEDULE C

Canada-Québec subsidiary agreement on forest development 1992-1996 Program Funding (\$ Thousands)

Program	Canada	Québec	TOTAL
	Cost-shared	Cost-shared	
1. Geoforestry Information Systems	9 800	9 800	19 600
2. Management of Private Woodlands	55 000	55 000	110 000
3. Forest management on the Upper North-Shore	3 000	3 000	6 000
4. Communications, Evaluation	200	200	400
TOTAL	68 000	68 000	136 000

APPROVED BY:

For the government of Canada

Frank Oberle
Minister of Forestry

Date _____

For the government of Québec

Gil Rémillard
Minister for Canadian
Intergovernmental Affairs

Date _____

Albert Côté
Minister of Forests

Date _____

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Gouvernement du Québec
**Ministère
des Forêts**

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